



## Personal Values and Ideals

### Task: Raising a Polite Child

#### Activity 1: Listening

Welcome to a practice listening task for the GESE 8.

You are going to hear a talk about **raising a polite child**. You will hear the talk twice. The first time, just listen. Then I'll ask you to tell me generally what the speaker is talking about. Are you ready?

#### Audio Script

They say that personal values start at home. Parents are usually the first teachers to a child on what it is to have good personal values. However, this isn't always an easy task. Have you ever thought about what challenges parents might have when it comes to raising a polite kid?

So to continue, many parents mentioned that they find it difficult to eliminate negative peer influences, especially when they are at school, because they are not able to see what happens then. A lot of time children learn ways of expressing themselves from their friends that may be not what the parents want from a polite child. Additionally, if a child has a bad role model, then the child might imitate their behaviour. They could express themselves in ways that are unacceptable or try to do things they otherwise wouldn't do. Furthermore, children that had seen television, films or video games that aren't for their age could have a negative influence. The reason is that they may be being introduced to certain information too early in their life. Something else that can encourage a child to act out are lyrics from music, specifically those that have cuss words and sexual content. It is hard to keep a child away from all this media in the world. Although, the more parents do, the more a child is allowed to just enjoy their childhood. There is something else that can provoke rude behaviour from a child and that is they have family problems that are causing emotional instability. That is why it is important for a child to have a safe home with parents that help maintain a positive environment.

In spite of being difficult to teach children how to have good manners at times, there are things that parents can do to help achieve this. For instance, it is important that parents live by example. Parents are the earliest and often the most important role models a child will have in their life. Moreover, if children are given house chores to do, the parents are teaching them responsibility and respect for those that live within the household. Respect goes hand-in-hand with being polite, so it is a wonderful quality to have. It is also necessary that parents take the time to explain that it is important to think about others feelings. Often children have been saying rude things because they didn't take into account the feelings of others. By teaching a child this, the parent is also teaching them to be empathetic and compassionate. Another thing to teach children is how to say sorry when they are mistaken, and other polite words, like thank you and please. This will help others recognize the child as polite, instead of rude. Lastly, even if they encounter rude people, it is a good idea to teach



children to treat others with respect, if they would also like to be respected in return, no matter the status in their life.

All in all, if parents had known the importance of working on good manners and politeness at an early age, then they wouldn't have had the same problems with behaviour when they are older. This is why it is never too early to teach proper behaviour.

Can you tell me in one or two sentences what the speaker was talking about?

Now listen to the talk again. This time make some notes as you listen, if you want to. Then I'll ask you to tell me about the reasons parents have for not having and having polite children.

Now tell me about the reasons parents have for not having and having polite children. You have one minute to talk.

This is the end of the listening task.

**Answers:**

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|--|---|
| Reason for not raising polite children | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● negative peer influences, at school, parents can't see</li><li>● having bad role models; imitate behaviour</li><li>● television, films, video games; negative influences</li><li>● lyrics in music that have cuss words and sexual content</li><li>● family problems, emotional instability</li></ul>   |
| Reasons for raising polite children    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● parents need to live by example</li><li>● do part of the house chores; respect to others that live in the same household</li><li>● explain why it is important to think of others feelings, empathetic and compassionate</li><li>● make a mistake, learn how to say sorry and other polite words</li><li>● teach that respecting others will make them be respected too</li></ul> |

Marks: +\_ / +10



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**Grammar Used in the listening task:**

- **Past Perfect**
- **Present Perfect Continuous**
- **Reported Speech**
- **Third Conditional**
- **Connectors**
  - **So to continue**
  - **Although**
  - **In spite / despite**